

SCHOOL LETTERHEAD

/...SAMPLE LETTER

Notification to Parent/Guardian of Tick Found on Student

Dear *[parent/guardian name]*:

This letter is being sent regarding the tick that was found and removed from your *[son/daughter]*, *[student name]*, on *[date]*.

The removed tick has been saved and may be retrieved from *[school nurse or other school official]*, at *[(###) ###-####]*.

Ticks can carry germs that make people sick. There are several different kinds of ticks in Vermont and not all of them carry diseases. However, most ticks found on people in Vermont are deer ticks, which can carry diseases. For help with identifying ticks see <http://www.healthvermont.gov/prevent/zoonotic/tickborne/ticks.aspx>.

It is helpful to try and determine how long the tick was attached to your child. In general, the longer a tick is attached, the greater the chance that it could spread a disease-causing germ. Ticks that are attached for less than 24 hours are unlikely to spread the most common disease-causing germs.

The Vermont Department of Health (VDH) recommends that you notify your child's healthcare provider of the tick bite and observe your child for signs or symptoms of illness, including any type of rash (particularly at the site of tick attachment), fever or flu-like symptoms for up to one month following the tick bite.

Any questions regarding your child's health should be directed to your child's health care provider. For general questions on diseases spread by ticks and how to prevent them, contact the VDH Infectious Disease Epidemiology Section at (802) 863-7240 or (800) 640-4374 or visit the VDH Tickborne Disease Website at: http://www.healthvermont.gov/prevent/zoonotic/tickborne/Tickborne_diseases.aspx

Sincerely,

[Signature]

[Title]